



**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Nicholas Kim Hayward, et al. **Examiner:** Christine J. Saoud  
**Serial No.:** 08/765,588 **Art Unit:** 1647  
**Filed:** April 25, 1997 **Docket:** 10441  
**For:** A NOVEL GROWTH FACTOR AND A **Dated:** April 13, 2006  
GENETIC SEQUENCE ENCODING SAME

**Confirmation No.:** 6257

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication mailed December 28, 2005, Applicants respectfully submit this response for entry in the above-referenced case.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: April 13, 2006

  
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Frank S. DiGiglio